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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/782,201	02/14/2001	Seiji Umemoto	Q63077	9861
7	590 06/06/2003			
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20037			EXAMINER	
			DUONG, TAI V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2871	
			DATE MAILED: 06/06/2003	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Examiner			Application No.	Applicant(s)				
TAI DUNIS 2871	Office Action Summary		09/782,201	UMEMOTO ET AL.				
The MALING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address — Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be avaisable under the provision of 3 CPR 1-136(b). In one weet, however, may a reply be timely filled If the period for reply specified above is less than theiry Old days, a reply within the statisticy minimum of thiny (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than theiry opin of wall specified above may be specified above as the standard principle. If the period for reply specified above is less than theiry opin of wall specified (6) MONTH'S from the maling date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than theiry opin of wall specified (6) MONTH'S from the maling date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than theiry opin of wall specified in the communication of CPR (6) MONTH'S from the maling date of this communication. This action is FINAL. 2b M This action is non-final. 3) Service this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 c.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-5 and 7 Is/are pending in the application. 4) Of the above claim (s) 1-15 and 7 Is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 1-15 and 7 Is/are rejected to. 8) Claim(s) 1-15 and 7 Is/are objected to. 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The draving(s) filled on 1-15/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 11) The proposed drawing correction filled on 1-15/are: a) 1-			Examiner	Art Unit				
Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALLING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Education of time may be available under fee providence of 3 (2FR 1.38(a)). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled. Education of time may be available under fee providence of 3 (2FR 1.38(a)). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled. Education of time may be available under fee providence of 3 (2FR 1.38(a)). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled. Education of the providence of the			TAI DUONG	2871				
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Edemisions of littine may be available under the provisions of 37 CPR 1.36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be limely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. **Prilate SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. **Prilate SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. **Prilate to reply visition the set or edemided prilate state than three more habitory peried trial largely and will excess (6) (MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication, even if limitly filed on the communication in the prilate state than three more habitory peried under this communication, even if limitly filed, may reduce any visitions of the set of the communication in the set of celebrate than the dependent after the mailing date of this communication, even if limitly filed, may reduce any visitions and the set of the communication in the set of the communication is not filed to the communication in the set of the communication is not filed on 03/24/03. **Status** **IND** Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/24/03. **Status** **IND** Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/24/03. **IND** This action is FINAL. **DIX** This action is non-final. **Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. **Disposition of Claims** **Alp** Claim(s)			pears on the cover sheet with the c	correspondence address				
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3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6) Other:	2) Notice	of References Cited (PTO-892) of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) ation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _	5) Notice of Informal P					

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Due to oversight, the objection to claim 7 has not been raised in the last Office action.

Claim 7 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only. However, claim 7 refers to both independent claim 1 and independent claim 2. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claim has not been further treated on the merits.

For purpose of examining, the limitations "formed of at least a mixture of a transparent resin and a colorant, and further comprising a transparent electrically conductive film on at least one side of said colored resin substrate" of claim 2 is incorporated to claim 7. The remaining limitations "to form a backside substrate ... a transparent resin" of claim 2 have not been given patentable weight because they are directed to the intended use of the colored resin substrate, and the visual side substrate is *not* an element of the colored resin substrate.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lu et al in view of Ono and JP 56-168634 (JP'634).

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Lu et al disclose in Fig. 1 a LCD device similar to that of the instant claims comprising a visual side substrate 30 having a transparent electrode 36, a reflection cholesteric liquid crystal layer 38, a color-imparting layer 18 on a backside transparent resin substrate 12 having a transparent electrode 20 (col. 3, line 26 – col. 4, line 31). Thus, the only difference between the LCD device of Lu and that of the instant is a colored resin substrate being used in place of the color-imparting layer 18 and the transparent resin substrate 12. The JP'634 discloses that it was known to employ a colored resin substrate which is formed of a transparent resin and a colorant (Constitution). One discloses that it was known to employ a colored substrate and a substrate made of flexible material (col. 8, lines 18-28). Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art in view of Ono and JP'634 to employ a colored resin substrate, instead of the color imparting layer and the substrate, in Lu's device for reducing the thickness, the weight and the manufacturing cost of the LCD device (as disclosed by Ono, col. 8, lines 18-22). As to claim 4, Lu et al disclose that it was known to employ a black layer for a high contrast ratios (col. 1, lines 40-42). Thus, it would been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to employ a black colored substrate in the LCD cited in the above rejection for obtaining high contrast ratios.

Claim 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lu et al in view of Ono and JP 56-168634 as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Fukuchi et al.

Fukuchi et disclose that it was known to employ a resin substrate not being thicker than 1 mm and having a glass transition of not lower than 90°C for providing

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sufficient heat resistance during the required working process (col. 2, lines 49-59; col. 10, lines 23-30). Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art in view of Fukuchi to select a resin substrate not being thicker than 1 mm as the colored resin substrate cited in the above rejection of claim 2 for obtaining a substrate with good mechanical characteristics and lightweight. Also, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to select a resin substrate having a glass transition temperature not lower than the temperatures of the different steps of the process as the colored resin substrate cited in the above rejection of claim 2 for preventing damages

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 2 have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Tai Duong at telephone number 703 308-4873.

TOANTON
PRIMARY ELEMINER

TVD

to the resin substrate.

05/03